

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 AID-05 SCA-01 IO-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4783

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 6238

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SREF, CI

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF TOP-LEVEL POLITICAL DETAINEES

REF: SANTIAGO 6218

1. NAMES AND IDENTIFYING DATA OF NINE RPT NINE TOP-LEVEL POLITICAL DETAINEES RELEASED WITH OPTION TO REMAIN IN CHILE ARE:

- A) CARLOS SOTO SEPULVEDA - NO INFORMATION;
- B) CARLOS MATUS ROMO - SOCIALIST, FORMER PRESIDENT OF STEEL COMPANY OF THE PACIFIC (CAP), FORMER MINISTER OF ECONOMY
- C) WALTER PINTO - NO INFORMATION;
- D) ANDRES SEGUNDO SEPULVEDA CARMONA - SOCIALIST, FORMER DEPUTY;
- D) PEDRO FELIPE RAMIREZ CEBALLOS - CHRISTIAN LEFT, FORMER MINISTER OF MINING, FORMER MINISTER OF HOUSING, MARRIED TO A DAUGHTER OF CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY 1970 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE RADOMIRO TOMIC;
- F) ORLANDO CANTAUARIAS - RADICAL, FORMER MINISTER OF MINES, FORMER MINISTER OF HOUSING;
- G) JULIO STUARDO - SOCIALIST, FORMER GOVERNOR ("INTENDENTE") OF SANTIAGO PROVINCE;

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H) SERGIO VUSKOVIC - COMMUNIST, FORMER MAYOR OF VALPARAISO,
COUSIN OF PEDRO VUSKOVIC, A PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC ADVISER TO ALLENDE;
I) MAXIMILIANO MARHOL - NO INFORMATION.

2. ORDERED EXPELLED WAS JAIME CONCHA LOIS, LEFT-WING SOCIALIST,
FORMER GOVERNOR SANTIAGO PROVINCE, RUMORED TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED
IN COCAINE TRAFFICKING. TWO OTHERS RUMORED TO BE EXILED IMMINENTLY
ARE: ANIBAL PALMA FOURCADE, FORMER UNDERSECY FOREIGN RELATIONS,
FORMER MINISTER OF EDUCATION, FORMER MINISTER OF HOUSING,
AND FORMER SECYGEN OF GOVERNMENT; AND TITO PALESTRO, SOCIALIST,
FORMER MAY OF SAN MIGUEL WORKING CLASS SUBURB OF SANTIAGO.

3. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ALSO ANNOUNCED RELEASE OF FORMER
CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC (PDC) DEPUTY PEDRO ARAYA AND FOUR PDC
LABOR LEADERS DETAINED RECENTLY IN ANTOFAGASTA (SANTIAGO 6106).
MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT STATED THAT NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE
DIRECTORATE
(DINA) HAD DETERMINED THERE WERE NO GROUNDS FOR HOLDING THESE
PERSONS UNDER STATE OF SIEGE PROVISIONS. POSSIBILITY OF PROSECUTING
THEM UNDER INTERNAL SECURITY LAW WAS LEFT OPEN, HOWEVER.

4. COMMENT: RELEASE OF FIRST NINE TO LIVE IN CHILE IF THEY
CHOOSE ELIMINATES THEM FROM ELIGIBILITY FOR US PAROLE PROGRAM,
ALTHOUGH SOME COULD POSSIBLE QUALIFY FOR NIV'S. ONLY US INTEREST
CASES ARE MATUS AND RAMIREZ (LETTER OF FEBRUARY 7, 1975 FROM
SEVEN PROMINENT US ACADEMICIANS TO ASSTSECY ROGERS).

5. VERY FEW SENIOR ALLENDE-ERA PERSONALITES REMAIN IN CUSTODY,
AND MOST ARE COMMUNISTS--LUIS CORVALAN, JOSE CADEMARTORI, DANIEL
VERGARA, FERNANDO FLORES (MAPU) SUBJECT OF HIGH-LEVEL US INTEREST,
ALSO APPARENTLY WILL CONTUE TO BE HELD. IN ADDITION, TWO
IMPORTANT CIVILIAN POLITICAL FIGURES, ERICH SCHNAKE AND CARLOS
LAZO, ARE SERVING SENTENCES ISSUED BY HIGHLY-PUBLICIZED AIR
FORCE TRIAL IN MID-1974.

6. RELEASE OF THESE LONG-TIME DETAINEES PLUS RECENTLY-ARRESTED
PDC MEMBERS SEEMS TO BE PROPITIATORY GESUTRE. WE KNOW QUESTION
OF RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS WAS DEBATED IN GOVERNMENT CIRCLES
IN CONJUNCTION WITH CELEBRATION OF JUNTA'S SECOND ANNIVERSARY.
PINOCHET DID NOT ANNOUNCE RELEASES IN HIS SPEECH, PERHAPS BECAUSE
IT WAS CONSIDERED NOT IN TUNE WITH THRUST OF STATEMENT. ADDITIONAL
RELEASES ARE POSSIBLE.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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